

Waskia

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

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1 Language Information

- Source: Ross and Paol (1978)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/wask1241>
- ISO-identifier: wsk
- Speakers:
- Location: Papua New Guinea
- Geneology: Nuclear Trans New Guinea > Madang > Unclassified Madang > Kowan > Waskia

2 Nominal Morphology

If a NP has a collective head noun, then plurality is expressed by a 3PL pronoun. Plurality of a NP can be indicated by a numeral or an adjective with a plural form.

3 Verbal Morphology

The verb has suffixes for singular and plural.

4 Conjunction

The adversative conjunction in Waskia are *tamu* 'but' and *mu/ mu mela* 'but'. The coordination conjunctions is *se* 'and' (= the preposition *se*).

- (1) ane ulang kaiy-em tamu me na-em.
I yam cook-PST.1SG but not eat-PST.1SG
'I cooked the yam, but didn't eat it.' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 16]

- (2) *udia mer-am mu mela laun ke dunur-am.*
 younger refuse-PST.3SG but - elder SUBJ.MARKER force-PST.3SG
 'The younger (brother) refused but the elder (brother) forced him.' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 16]
- (3) *nunga nuam-net inongi tair-un mu kulak itelala munta me*
 their 3.mother-father village come-PST.3PL but boy two that not
bager-un.
 stay-PST.3PL
 'Their parents came to the village, but those two boys weren't there.' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 16]

5 Disjunction

Disjunction is marked by *ito* 'or' and *e* 'or'. Alternative question is formed by juxtaposition.

- (4) *mukolase ane ito ingam i urat biter-iki i ito taun se namer-iki.*
 tomorrow I or garden in work do-FUR.1SG Q or town to go-FUR.1SG
 'Tomorrow I shall either work in the garden or go to town.' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 17]
- (5) *ni itakta na-sam i inongi i name-sam ?*
 you now eat-PRES.2SG Q village Q go-PRES.2SG
 'Are you eating now or are you going home?' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 17]
- (6) *ni gagi yagor se i e lage yagor se name-sam?*
 you sea canoe in Q or road canoe in go-PRES.2SG
 'Are you going by boat or by car?' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 75]
- (7) *Johnke i e nike i name-sam?*
 John.SUBJ.MARKER Q or you.SUBJ.MARKER Q go-PRES.2SG
 'Is John going or are you?' [Ross and Paol, 1978, p. 75]

6 Postpositions

1. *se* 'on, in, to, at, with'
2. *i* 'to, in'
3. *kuali* 'on'
4. *nungli* 'inside'
5. *ko* 'from'
6. *ameting i* 'outside'

7. *bowa nungi* 'under'

8. *karo* 'with'

9. *wam* 'like'

References

Ross, Malcolm and John Natu Paol (1978). *A Waskia Grammar Sketch and Vocabulary*.
Canberra: Australian National University.